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OHIO FIREFIGHTER is an official publication of The Ohio State Firefighters' Association. It is published six times a year to circulate information about the fire service in the State of Ohio

FEATURE ARTICLE:

Winter Health and Safety Tips



visit us on the web!

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Jason Pollitt

PRESIDENT



Well, hello!... I can't believe it is already the beginning of a new year, and it's going to be a good one for the O.S.F.A.

First, I would like to start out by telling you about our youth committee and the things they are involved in. The committee has the Ohio Youth Fire & EMS Training Academy, or what we like to call OYFETA, that was started back in 2004. The camp takes place every year in July, with this year's camp scheduled for July 7th thru the 13th.

The purpose of OYFETA is to help Fire Explorers, Jr. Firefighters, Fire Cadets and other youth members of fire departments develop new skills and create new friendships that will last a lifetime.

In addition to the training camp, they have some one day events planned at different locations around the state.

We are also underway with the planning of this year's conference in August.

I would also like to mention that the association has a Line of Duty Death benefit for our members at no extra charge, but your department must register for it. So please take the time to see if your chief or a designee has sent it in.

The association continues to work with the Ohio Fire Academy to create the best curriculum possible to serve the firefighters in Ohio. Any feedback our members can provide will get to the correct person as we

continue to improve the delivery and process of training and education.

We will also continue to work with Ohio Fire Alliance regarding some key issues affecting the fire service.

If your department is NOT part of the Legal Defense Trust fund, now is the time to join. The association has paid two claims to defend individuals charged with vehicular homicide while in the performance of their duties. The cost is a one-time fee of \$7.00 a member, and it is well worth it.

I hope to see everyone at the next board meeting on April 13th. The meetings start at 5 pm and our new location is the Country Inn and Suites Columbus Airport-East in the Reynoldsburg area.

If you have interest in serving on a committee just let me know. If I can help you in any way, I can be reached at (513) 824-9106 or e-mail WTFD33@aol.com



Tim Adams

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT



No, this is not in the wrong place. I have moved to the position of 1st Vice President due to the resignation of Bob Norman. Bob found it necessary to resign from the board due to family matters. We wish him well and he will be missed by the association.

At the last Executive Board

meeting, the Legal Defense Trust Fund trustees met to consider an amendment to the Trust. By unanimous vote, the trustees approved the amendment that withholds the benefits of the fund to anyone charged with vehicular homicide if they are also charged with driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol. The trustees of the LDTF, Association Officers, and Executive Board of the OSFA feel that we cannot condone DUI by paying for the defense of anyone accused of it. *To read the exact language of the amendment, please read the*

article by legal council, Chip Welch, on page 6.

The conference committee has started getting everything ready for this year's conference, so don't forget to mark you calendars for the second week-end of August. Remember this is an election year for your officers and anyone running for office must have their letters of intent to the Nominations Committee by the board meeting on the second Saturday of April.

Timothy Adams



Rodger Sansom

SECRETARY / TREASURER



I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable holiday season and that the winter season hasn't taken too much of a toll on your daily activities.

I would like to thank everyone who took the time to send their updated rosters for the Legal Defense Trust Fund. It is important to note that your Defense Fund membership is not considered up-to-date if you do not have a current roster on file and if your dues for the association are not current.

There are no additional fees required unless your membership increases from the number of members you originally paid for. Trust fund members have received a notice of what we have on file for your department that was mailed with your dues notice. Failure to supply us with a current roster will delay any payments should the fund be needed. Roster forms are available on our website, www.ohiofirefighters.org, or can be submitted to me via email.

Dues notices were mailed around the beginning of December. Please make sure you update the information on the remittance form so we have your current information on file. Those of you who have paid on the five year plan should have received an informational update form to return to us. Please try to get your

dues to me as soon as possible to save an extra mailing expense for reminder notices.

I will be mailing your membership certificates and cards sometime around the middle of February. Please remember that the dues period runs from January 1st through December 31st.

There are still 48 departments that have not registered for the free Line of Duty Death benefit that is offered by the association as part of your membership fees. This free benefit will provide a one-time, immediate payment to the family of your members, should they die in the line of duty. The only requirement is that your department must have a registration form on file and that current beneficiary information is on file at your station. Please do not penalize your members by not taking advantage of this important benefit. Registration forms are available on the website.

The Ohio State Firefighters' Association offers many other benefits to its members. Departments should look into sponsoring an educational seminar. Our Education Committee will be happy to tailor an education seminar to meet your needs. There are also scholarships for fire training and paramedic school available. We offer Distinguished Service Awards for your retiring members. These are just a few of the benefits available to our members that are not being used on a regular basis. These and many other opportunities are available to our members as well. Please call me at 800-825-6732

if you have any questions about these or any other programs offered by the association.

Each county association is permitted to have a county representative attend the quarterly executive board meeting with voting privileges. This gives your county a chance to vote on the decisions that will be made affecting the fire service at the state level. There are also legislative, EMS board and fire training updates discussed at each meeting. As of the January meeting, we have had very few county representatives in attendance. Representatives must be pre-registered with the Secretary-Treasurer to have voting privileges. Registration forms are available on the website.

It is not too early to start making plans for the annual conference that will be held August 8th through the 11th in Boston Heights. Information is available on the website or by contacting any of the officers.

I regret to inform our members that 1st Vice President Bob Norman has resigned from his office for personal reasons. We will miss Bob's leadership and expertise. Bob was dedicated to our association and I am sure his decision was a difficult one. "Thank you, Bob, for your service to the O.S.F.A. and to the fire service in the state of Ohio."

We value our members. If there is anything the officers can do to help you or your department, please don't hesitate to contact us. We need your input to best serve your needs.

Rodger M. Sansom



Porter "Chip" Welch

LEGAL COUNSEL



AMENDMENT TO THE LEGAL DEFENSE TRUST FUND

Unfortunately we have all read the news reports or heard stories of firefighters that have consumed alcohol (or other illicit substances) and then driven an apparatus on an emergency response or even in the normal course of their duties. Though allegations and rumors have circulated in the past few years, Ohio's fire service has been fortunate in that we have not experienced an incident involving an intoxicated operator of an emergency apparatus.

The Trustees of the Ohio State Firefighters' Association Legal Defense Trust Fund have taken a proactive approach to the issue of apparatus drivers that are allegedly under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol. The Trust Fund was created to provide for the legal defense of a member firefighter who is charged with one of the vehicular homicide statutes as a result of an accident that occurred while in the line of duty. The Trustees feel that it is important to maintain the integrity of the Trust Fund, the Association, and Ohio's fire service by ensuring that the Trust Fund is not involved with defending an allegedly intoxicated apparatus operator. Therefore, effective January 12, 2013, the Legal Defense Trust Fund will not fund the legal defense of a member firefighter who is charged under Ohio's vehicular homicide

statutes AND charged with being under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol. A copy of the language of the Amendment is provided below.

Hopefully this Amendment prompts your Department to review their policies and procedures with respect to operating emergency vehicles and reporting for duty after consuming alcohol. If your Department doesn't have a comprehensive driving policy, now is the perfect time to draft and implement one. Also, does your Department have a policy on post-accident drug and alcohol testing or even a drug-free workplace program? If not, I would encourage you to contact the Bureau of Worker's Compensation as they have grant programs that will help you develop and implement drug-free workplace programs.

AMENDMENT TO THE OHIO STATE FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION LEGAL DEFENSE TRUST FUND RULES & REGULATIONS

WHEREAS: The Executive Board of the Ohio State Firefighters' Association and the Board of Trustee of the Legal Defense Trust Fund entered into a trust agreement on October 13, 1979. The purpose of such agreement being to provide payment for a legal defense for certain members of the Association who elect to be members of said fund and who are charged with the crime of vehicular homicide; and,

WHEREAS: Since the date of said agreement, fire departments in the State of Ohio have experienced vehicular accidents where accusations have been made that drivers of responding fire apparatus may or may not have been under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol at the time of the accident; and,

WHEREAS: Ensuring that the Legal Defense Trust Fund is supporting and defending those member firefighters that reflect honorably upon the profession of firefighting is an integral requirement to providing the benefit and protection of the Legal Defense Trust Fund to Association Members;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. That Section VI Coverage of the Rules and Regulations of the Legal Defense Trust Fund Agreement is hereby amended to include the following language:

Upon notifying the Trustees of the Legal Defense Trust Fund that an individual Member wishes to make a claim against the Trust Fund, the Chairman of the Trust Fund Trustees and/or his designee shall verify the charge(s) alleged by the State of Ohio against the Member. Verification shall occur by the Member producing a copy of the charges and/or indictment to the Chairman of the Trust Fund.

Upon receipt of the charge(s) and/or indictment, the Chairman of the Trust Fund shall verify if any of the charges alleged against the Member include an alleged violation of Revised Code §4511.19 (as amended). If the Member is alleged by the State of Ohio to have violated this section of the Revised Code, then the Chairman of the Trust Fund shall notify the Member that the Trust Fund has denied the Member's claim against the Trust Fund.

There are no other changes to the Rules and Regulations of the Legal Defense Trust Fund Agreement. All other portions of the Rules and Regulations of the Legal Defense Trust Fund Agreement are hereby reaffirmed and ratified and shall continue in full force and effect as unchanged.

This article is provided solely for informational purposes. This article is not, nor should it be construed as, legal advice. If you have specific issues, questions, and/or concerns, contact competent legal counsel.

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A NOTE FROM PHIL McLEAN

Dear all,

Just a short note to thank many of you that I have been working with through the University of Akron since 1995. Many co-workers, fire chiefs, and friends have helped me through many projects, so many thanks to all of you !!

Recent pension law changes have caused me to leave this job that I truly do love. I hope that I may be able to return to continue with the center.

Thanks once again and best to all!! Phil McLean



STATE FIRE MARSHAL ANNOUNCES AVAILABILITY OF GRANT & LOAN APPLICATIONS SHARED SERVICES ENCOURAGED FOR EQUIPMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS

State Fire Marshal Larry Flowers announces the availability of grant and loan application packages for Ohio's fire service. Marshal Flowers also announced a change to the grant process that encourages collaboration between multiple government agencies.

"This is a great opportunity for local governments to work together to apply for and secure equipment grant funds," said State Fire Marshal Larry Flowers. "This will allow multiple governments to share fire protection services in a more effective way."

Two grant programs exist for volunteer fire departments, fire departments serving smaller communities, joint fire districts and governments which contract for fire protection from one of these types of departments or private companies. The opportunities include training grants and equipment grants.

The purpose of the training and equipment grant programs are to offset the cost of state certified firefighter training programs or equipment purchases to small local governments in the state of Ohio.

A third program, the Revolving Loan program, assists local governments in funding certain fire department major related expenses. It can be used to expedite the purchase of major firefighting,

rescue or EMS equipment and can also be used for the construction or renovation of fire department buildings.

The application packages and complete criteria are available by clicking the links below.

If you have specific questions, please contact **Kimberly Hodnett:**

kimberly.hodnett@com.state.oh.us
or 614-752-7122.

Apply for a 2012 Training Grant

http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire/docs/FMAC_Training2012.pdf

Apply for a 2013 Fire Department Equipment Grant (Individual Applicants)

http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire/docs/FMAC_Equipment_Individual_2013.pdf

Apply for a 2013 Fire Department Equipment Grant (Joint Applicants)

http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire/docs/FMAC_Equipment_Joint_2013.pdf

Apply to the 2013 Revolving Loan Fund Program

http://www.com.ohio.gov/fire/docs/FMAC_RevolvingLoan_2013.pdf

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SERC MINUTES



To: State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)

From: Cindy DeWulf, DAPC & SERC Co-Chair

Subject: October 10th, 2012 SERC Meeting Minutes

Date: November 28th, 2012

The October 10th, 2012 State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) meeting was called to order at the Ohio Emergency Management Agency by Cindy DeWulf, SERC Co-Chair (Ohio EPA).

14 Voting Members were present:
Cindy DeWulf, Ohio EPA, SERC Co-Chair
Sima Merick, Ohio EMA, SERC Co-Chair (Alternate)
Tim Kern, AG Office
Dan Fisher, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
Staff Lieutenant Kenneth Kocab, State Highway Patrol
Randy Van Dyne, Environmental Representative
Willie Brantingham, Volunteer Firefighters' Representative
Raenell Nagel, Environmental Representative
Rick Hoffman, Professional Firefighters' Representative
Toby Wagner, Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Richard Hughes, Industry Representative
Brian Galligher, LEPC Representative
Steve Wagner, Ohio Department of Health
Al Phillips, Ohio Department of Transportation
Jeff Leming, State Fire Marshal's Office

3 Voting Members were not present
Jack Pounds, Chemical Manufacturer Representative
Clyde McKenzie, Fire Chief Representative

Members not appointed by Governor
County Interest Representative (Vacant)
Elected Official Representative (Vacant) – Who is this?

Waive the 24 Hour Rule:

Al Phillips made the motion, seconded by Willie Brantingham, that the 24-hour rule be waived.

Record of Vote: 12 -For
0- Against
0- Abstain

Approval of August 8th, 2012 SERC Meeting Minutes:

Cindy asked for a motion to accept the August 8th, 2012 SERC meeting minutes. A motion was made by Dan Fisher. Motion to accept was seconded by Randy Van Dyne.

Record of Vote: 12 -For
0 -Against
0 -Abstain

SERC Committee Reports: Executive:

Cindy DeWulf stated that the Executive Committee met prior to today's meeting.

First item discussed centered on pending SERC enforcement orders to the Jefferson County LEPC for their LEPC Plan being out of concurrence. The orders were not issued because the LEPC submitted their Plan to be reviewed. Tim Kern (AGO) stated that the strategy of issuing orders or the threat of such issuance seems to be working in our favor. Steve Wagner (Health) asked if the SERC should accelerate the timeliness of issuance of orders to non-compliant LEPCs. Cindy DeWulf noted that a template for orders has been developed so that future orders should be issued quickly.

Cindy stated that the Committee needs to formally organize and kick-off the ad hoc committee that will be identifying potential changes to the ORC. Cindy noted that this activity could take one year.

The Committee briefly discussed the past LEPC Conference and wanted to thank Willie Brantingham and his Training and Education Committee for another wonderful conference.

Cindy stated that a topic for future discussion is a proposal to move the SERC meetings to quarterly. The committee is reviewing

key voting issues and dates as called for under our statute. Cindy requests the working committees to evaluate their timelines as well and it is the committee's intent to try and finalize at the December 2012 SERC meeting. Vikki Bunting (Ohio EMA) has strong concerns to this proposal due to issuance of orders to LEPCs and the 60-day corrective action plan guidelines. Cindy stated that the issuance of orders is an action of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee could schedule additional meetings as needed to address orders. Willie Brantingham stated that the Training and Education Committee needs to meet at least quarterly with Randy Van Dyne commenting that the committee can set additional meetings as needed.

Cindy advised the membership that the financial disclosure is an annual reporting requirement and the forms can be found on-line. SERC pays the filing fee associated with such report. Ethics training also is required and it is our hope to have ethics training following the December 2012 SERC meeting for those interested to attend.

As most are now aware, Mel House (EMA) and Frank Conway (SFM) are no longer members on the SERC. Mel has taken a new job within the Department of Public Safety and Frank Conway has been moved over within SFM to oversee the Prevention Program at the Marshal's Office.

Administrative & Funding:

The committee met prior to today's SERC meeting.

Cindy stated that the committee discussed three LEPC funding requests. Clark County LEPC seeks approval to contribute a fair share to the countywide multi-level communication system being installed within the county. The request was approved. Summit County requested if LEPC funds could be used to deal with asbestos removal at a building donated to a fire department for training purposes. The committee denied this request due to falling outside the intent of EPCRA

program. Darke County LEPC requested if LEPC funds can be used to support hazmat physicals for the responders. This request was denied in accordance to the SERC approved LEPC Funding Guidance document.

Cindy continued with the committee reformatting and making proposed changes to the LEPC Grant Application and LEPC Fiscal Report. The committee will e-mail the drafts to LEPCs seeking comment and it is our intent to finalize at the December 2012 SERC meeting.

Operations & Issues:

Brian Galligher stated that the committee is at a standstill with the draft/update to the LEPC Planning Document. Committee needs to have direct dialogue with either Sima Maerick or Nancy Dragani to get their input and on how to proceed.

Training and Education:

Willie Brantingham and his committee reviewed and discussed the evaluations from the past LEPC Conference. Over-all the feedback was good and comments were favorable. The negative feedback mostly centered on the SERC meeting that lasted only 30 minutes and many SERC members had nothing to report. LEPCs traveled a good distance to observe a SERC meeting as part of the Conference and this was indeed not a good mark for SERC.

Willie then continued in the meeting discussed a need to identify program priorities for training or in need of statewide coordination. The committee may talk to Ohio EMA field liaisons to determine what is going on in the counties that can be addressed at the conference.

The committee then discussed the idea of moving the LEPC Conference to another month eliminate the conflict with summer vacations. Willie wants the committee to get back to the annual goal setting and seek LEPC feedback.

Don McDonald (Stark County) stated that SERC does a good job in plans and exercise, but could enhance the interaction with the LEPCs on other issues. Few LEPC representatives attend SERC meetings. The items discussed at the SERC meetings often do not apply

to the LEPCs. Training, a rail/highway/trucking safety event, communication regarding how the regulations apply to the oil and gas industry, and attendance of SERC members at an LEPC meeting were identified as potential topics and activities for the future.

Agency Reports:

EMA

Ohio EMA indicates that there is 1 LEPC Exercises up for SFY 2013 Exercise Concurrence. Rick Hoffman made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-124 as documented. Al Phillips seconded the motion. No discussion.

Record of Vote: 14- For
0- Against
0- Abstain

Sima Merick continued that there are 7 LEPC Plans up for SFY 2013 Plan Concurrence. Willie Brantingham made a motion to approve as documented. Kenneth Kocab seconded the motion. No discussion.

Record of Vote: 14- For
0-Against
0-Abstain

EPA

Cindy DeWulf introduced "2011-2103 LEPC Membership Appointment" Resolutions 2012-132 through -137, appointing new LEPC members for Franklin, Ross, Marion, Morrow, Paulding, and Stark County LEPCs. Dan Fisher made a motion to approve. Brian Galligher seconded the motion.

Record of Vote: 14- For
0- Against
0- Abstain

LEPC meeting minutes were provided for Cuyahoga, Gallia, Lawrence, Morrow and Wayne Counties.

Other: Dr. E. Douglass Harris, Associate Dean and Research Professor with the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Texas at Dallas gave a call-in webex presentation on the "E-Plan Information Management Software." www.eplannews.utdallas.edu/

Rick Warren from EMA briefly discussed the process for LEPC Plan review. Rick said that each LEPC must submit updates to their plans. Each LEPC can submit up to 3 "no change" letters. He also stated that every LEPC plan must be updated during the four year cycle.

ODNR: No Report

PUCO: No Report

Health: No Report

SHP: No Report

SFM: No Report

ODOT: No Report

AGO: No Report

Other SERC members and Attendees:

Raenell Nagel discussed the Ohio Environmental Council's community based training programs. A public forum was held with Hardin County's LEPC and was very successful. This model program can be used with any LEPC. She would be happy to share information with other LEPCs that are interested in holding this training with the Ohio Environmental Council

Meeting adjourned.

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ANNUAL AWARD RECOGNIZES FIRE DEPARTMENTS FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN FIRE SERVICE-BASED EMS

WASHINGTON, DC (January 24, 2013)

- The Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI) and the MedicAlert Foundation announced that they are accepting applications for the Third Annual Fire Service-Based EMS Awards to be presented at the 25th Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner on May 9, 2013 in Washington, DC. The Excellence in Fire Service-Based EMS Awards Program honors volunteer, career and combination departments that have established innovative and highly effective best practices in emergency medical services. Departments selected for their achievements will be honored at the annual dinner attended by 2,000 fire and emergency services leaders from across the nation.

"Across this country, we hear of outstanding practices fire departments have implemented to enhance emergency medical care, leading to higher survival rates for the victims and greater safety for our responders," said CFSI President Bill Jenaway. "We want to draw national attention to these efforts to encourage other departments to enhance their own practices; hence this new program. We thank the MedicAlert Foundation for their support of this initiative—they have an outstanding tradition of making positive contributions to public safety."

"Every day in communities across the country, fire personnel are there for all of us in times of need. We are equally proud that every day the MedicAlert Foundation is helping fire personnel and other first responders protect all of us too" said Andrew B. Wigglesworth, President and CEO of MedicAlert Foundation. "The adaptation of evidence-based treatment plans, technology and best practices is the foundation of effective EMS care. The agencies that empower their EMS providers to improve on this foundation will lead the way in patient care and provider safety. We are proud to sponsor this award which recognizes the leaders in fire service-based EMS care."

To download an application and to learn more about the Excellence in Fire-Service Based EMS

Awards program, visit www.medicalert.org/award or www.cfsi.org/awards/awards_ems.cfm#. The deadline for application submissions is March 8th.

About Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI)

Established in 1989, the Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan policy institute that works with members of Congress in promoting fire and life safety issues. Working with other national fire service organizations, the Institute focuses its attention on issues that benefit all first responders. Members of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, the largest caucus in Congress, look to CFSI for guidance and information to enhance their level of understanding about the challenges and needs of our nation's fire and EMS communities. For more information on CFSI, visit www.cfsi.org.

About MedicAlert Foundation International

Established in 1956, the nonprofit MedicAlert Foundation International pioneered the use of medical IDs and delivers the most dependable, responsive, intelligent and trusted Emergency Identification and Medical Information Network. MedicAlert Foundation International provides the functionality of an e-health information exchange through an innovative combination of a unique patient identifier linked to a personal health record and a live 24/7 emergency response service. MedicAlert Foundation International medical IDs alert emergency personnel to a member's primary health conditions, medications or implanted medical devices. In addition to its 24-hour emergency response service, MedicAlert Foundation International also provides family and caregiver notification so that members can be reunited with their loved ones. MedicAlert Foundation International services are available around the world through a network of international nonprofit affiliated organizations licensed by the Foundation. Visit www.medicalert.org for more information.



WINTER HEALTH AND SAFETY TIPS

Winter's various dangers to people can occur suddenly, like a heart attack while shoveling snow, or slow and stealthily like carbon monoxide poisoning. Hypothermia and frostbite are always a concern, especially for the elderly and for people with chronic health conditions. The Ohio Departments of Aging, Health and Mental Health offer these safety tips to help keep you and your family safe this winter season.

SNOW SHOVELING SAFETY

Keep walkways around the home clear of snow and ice. Snow shoveling can cause serious injuries or death to people who are elderly, have chronic health problems or are not used to strenuous activity. If you are in one of these categories, you may want to use a snow blower or hire a snow removal service.

If you choose to do this heavy work yourself, remember that your body may tire quicker in the cold. Do not overextend yourself. Take short breaks in between shoveling. Exhaustion can make the body more susceptible to cold injuries.

Tips:

- * Wear sturdy shoes with rugged soles to help prevent slips and falls.
- * Never smoke while shoveling. Tobacco smoke constricts blood vessels just as cold air does; the combination could be dangerous.
- * If you become short of breath while shoveling, stop and rest. If you feel pain or tightness in your chest, become dizzy, faint or start sweating heavily, stop immediately and call for help.
- * Have a partner monitor your progress and share the workload. If you have a heart attack, your partner can call for help and if trained, perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) until help arrives.

- * Use a sturdy, lightweight shovel to push the snow out of the way. If you must lift the snow, take small scoops. A shovel-full of dry snow can weigh about four pounds; wet snow can weigh significantly more.
- * Warm up before shoveling by walking and stretching your arms and legs for a few minutes. Warm muscles are less likely to be injured and work more efficiently.
- * If you use a snow blower, keep in mind that pushing a snow blower through heavy, packed snow can present a health risk.

AVOIDING SLIPS AND FALLS

Winter in Ohio can be unpredictable. Snow, sleet and icy roads and walkways can make getting around not only inconvenient, but dangerous.

Use these simple precautions to decrease your risk of falling:

- * Take it slow. Allow extra time to get places in the winter. Try to avoid carrying heavy packages while walking on ice or snow – it can leave you feeling unbalanced.
- * Keep rock salt, sand and a shovel available. Rock salt is a chemical de-icing compound that reduces the risk of slipping.
- * Wear appropriate footgear. Winter boots provide more traction than tennis or dress shoes. Carry a cell phone when walking in inclement weather.

- * Ask for help. If you have to walk across an icy sidewalk or parking lot, try to find a steady arm to lean on. Most people will gladly help an older person navigate a slippery walkway.
- * Continue your exercise regimen indoors, if possible.
- * For additional information on preventing falls, visit the CDC website:
www.cdc.gov/features/fallrisks/

HYPOTHERMIA

When exposed to cold temperatures, the body begins to lose heat faster than it can be produced. Prolonged exposure to cold will eventually use up your body's stored energy. The result is hypothermia, or abnormally low body temperature. Body temperature that is too low affects the brain, making the victim unable to think clearly or move well. This makes hypothermia particularly dangerous because a person may not know it is happening and won't be able to do anything about it.

Hypothermia is most likely at very cold temperatures, but can occur even at cool temperatures (above 40° F) if a person becomes chilled from rain, sweat or submersion in cold water. Hypothermia can also occur inside a building. The thermostat should be set no lower than 65-70 degrees if the occupants are 75 years or older.

Signs of Hypothermia

- * Confusion or memory loss
- * Sleepiness
- * Slowed, slurred speech or shallow breathing
- * Weak pulse or low blood pressure
- * Exhaustion
- * A change in behavior during cold weather or a change in the way a person normally looks
- * A lot of shivering or no shivering; stiffness in the arms or legs
- * Poor control over body movements or slow reactions
- * Chilly rooms or other signs that a person has been in a cold place

Who is at risk of hypothermia and how can it be prevented?

Infants younger than one year of age are at risk. They should never sleep in a cold room and should wear warm clothing or a snug-fitting sleeper to prevent loss of body heat. Do not place blankets in the crib. Instead use a sleep sack to keep infants warm. Pre-warm vehicles before taking infants out into extreme cold weather.

Children lose heat faster than adults do. They have a larger head-to-body ratio than adults do, making them more prone to heat loss through the head. Ensure children playing outside cover their heads (with hats or hoods) and come inside periodically to warm up. If you don't eat well, you might have less fat under your skin. Fat can protect your body. It keeps heat in your body. Make sure you are eating enough food to keep up your weight.

People with serious mental illnesses, developmental or cognitive disabilities who may not hear temperature or weather advisory warnings broadcast on TV or radio or may not fully recognize the significance of the cold weather warnings.

Some medicines can increase the risk of accidental hypothermia. These include drugs used to treat anxiety, depression, or nausea. Some over-the-counter cold reme-

dies can also cause problems.

Some illnesses may make it harder for your body to stay warm.

They include:

- * Disorders of the body's hormone system such as low thyroid (hypothyroidism)
- * Any condition that interferes with the normal flow of blood such as diabetes
- * Skin problems, such as psoriasis, cause your body to lose more heat than normal. Visit your doctor regularly to help keep any illness under control, and try to stay away from cold places.

Other health conditions might hinder the ability for people to either move to a warmer place, or put on additional clothing, or wrap up in a blanket.

For example:

- * Severe arthritis, Parkinson's disease, or other illnesses can physically make it harder to move around.
- * A debilitating illness such as a stroke can leave a person paralyzed and impair the ability to think clearly.
- * Memory disorders or dementia can impair the ability to think clearly and make simple decisions.
- * A fall or other injury can hinder movement or judgment.

Alcoholic drinks can also make a person lose body heat faster. People at risk of hypothermia should use alcohol moderately, if at all. They should not drink alcohol before bedtime when the temperatures become colder.

What can you do if you think someone might have hypothermia?

First, take his or her temperature. If the temperature does not rise above 96 degrees, call for help. This person must be seen by a physician.

While waiting for help to arrive, keep the person warm and dry.

Wrap the person in extra blankets, coats, towels. Use whatever you may have available. Your own body can serve as warmth. Lie close, but be gentle. Rubbing the skin of an older adult can make problems worse because his/her skin is thinner and could easily be torn or injured by vigorous rubbing. Set the thermostat for at least 68 to 70 degrees.

Remember to check the forecast for very cold or very windy weather. On these days, it might be best to remain indoors.

FROSTBITE

Frostbite is the most common cold-related injury. Frostbite is an injury to the body caused by freezing of skin tissue. Frostbite causes loss of feeling and color in the affected areas. It most often affects the nose, ears, cheeks, chin, fingers or toes. Frostbite can permanently damage the body and severe cases can lead to amputation. The risk of frostbite is increased in people with reduced blood circulation, those who drink alcoholic beverages, the elderly and people who are not dressed properly for extremely cold temperatures.

At the first signs of redness or pain in any skin area, get out of the cold or protect any exposed skin – frostbite may be beginning. The following signs may indicate frostbite: a white or grayish-yellow skin area; skin that feels usually firm or waxy; numbness. A victim is often unaware of frostbite until someone else points it out because the frozen tissues are numb.

What to do

If you detect symptoms of frostbite, seek medical care. Because both frostbite and hypothermia result from exposure, first determine whether the victim also shows signs of hypothermia, as described above. Hypothermia is a more serious medical condition and requires emergency medical assistance.

Continued on next page.

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CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING AND FIRE PREVENTION

As the weather turns cold, Ohioans look for ways to save on heating costs during these tough economic times. The use of alternative heating sources such as portable heaters, fireplaces and wood stoves increases. Fire deaths and carbon monoxide poisoning are increased risks from using alternate heating sources. Home heating equipment is among the top causes of fires and CO poisoning. The Ohio Departments of Health and Aging suggest the following safety tips to prevent injury from carbon monoxide poisoning and fire.

- * Install a battery-operated carbon monoxide detector and smoke alarms throughout the home, and check or replace the batteries twice a year, when you change the time on the clocks every spring and fall. If the CO detector or smoke alarm sounds, leave the building immediately and call 911.
- * Have a fire safety escape plan. Keep escape routes clear and free of clutter and trip hazards. Keep a robe, slippers, eye glasses and keys close to the bed.
- * Have your heating system, water heater, and any other gas, oil or coal-burning appliance serviced by a qualified technician every year.
- * Seek prompt medical attention if you suspect CO poisoning, or are feeling dizzy, light-headed or nauseous.
- * Do not heat your house by using a gas oven.
- * Do not run or warm a vehicle inside a garage that is attached to the home, even if the garage door is open.

If there is frostbite but no sign of hypothermia, and immediate medical care is not available, proceed as follows:

- * Get into a warm room as soon as possible.
- * Unless absolutely necessary, do not walk on frostbitten feet or toes. This can increase the damage.
- * Immerse the affected area in warm – not hot – water (the temperature should be comfortable to the touch of unaffected parts of the body).
- * Or, warm the affected area using body heat. For example, the heat of an armpit can be used to warm frostbitten fingers.
- * Do not rub the frostbitten area with snow or massage it, at all. This can cause more damage.
- * Do not use a heating pad, heat lamp or the heat of a stove, fireplace or radiator for warming. Affected areas are numb and can be easily burned.

These steps are not substitutes for proper medical care. Hypothermia is a medical emergency and frostbite should be evaluated by a healthcare provider. It is a good idea to take a first aid and emergency resuscitation (CPR) course to prepare for cold-weather health problems. Taking preventative action is your best defense against having to deal with extreme cold-weather conditions. By preparing your home and car in advance for winter emergencies, and by observing safety precautions during times of extremely cold weather, you can reduce the risk of weather-related health problems.

If using a fireplace or wood stove:

- * Have your chimney or wood stove inspected and cleaned annually by a certified chimney specialist.
- * Keep the hearth area clear of debris, decorations and flammable material.
- * Do not burn anything in a stove or fireplace that is not vented.
- * Do not leave fires burning unattended.

If using a portable heater:

- * Keep the heater at least one foot away from people, pets and objects.
- * Do not leave portable heaters on when no one is home.
- * Turn the heater down or off when you are sleeping.
- * Unplug electrical appliances/heaters when not in use.
- * Never hang damp clothes near a heater to dry them.

For additional information on winter health and safety, visit the following: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/>

Ohio Department of Health <http://www.odh.ohio.gov/features/odhfeatures/winterweather.aspx>

Ohio Department of Aging <http://www.aging.ohio.gov/information/emergencypreparedness/>

For additional information on cold weather safety and preparedness, visit the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness website at: www.weather-safety.ohio.gov.

Article Released by:

Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness Fact Sheet
Contact: Tessie Pollock
Ohio Department of Health
(614) 644-8562



Ohio Fire Corps 2013 State Conference: A Free Day of Training and Lunch is on US!

This conference is open to Fire Corps programs, fire departments, auxiliaries, and those interested in learning more about Fire Corps! Space is limited, so register today!

March 16, 2013 – 9am to 3pm - Mohican State Lodge www.mohicanstateparklodge.com

Please register for this FREE event at www.ohiofirecorps.com by March 1st, 2013. For those needing lodging the night before, a room block is all set and attendees can call to make reservations at their own expense. Please call 1-800-282-7275 and ask for the Emergency Management Agency block.

Conference Highlights:

- **National Updates:** The National Volunteer Fire Council Deputy Director will be giving updates on things at the National Level!
- **Fire Prevention & Magic:** Learn how fire prevention can be made fun and magical! Fireman Dave and his bag of tricks will make sure the message of fire prevention isn't forgotten!
- **Straight from New York!:** The legendary fire recruiter will be on hand to deliver tips and best practices for successful volunteer recruitment.
- **Maximizing YOUR Auxiliary:** Learn how your auxiliary can become a cost saver and a major resource to your department!
- **Bringing Home the Bacon:** Tricks of the trade to fund your Fire Corps program will be brought to you by the famous Stella from Oregon!
- **Enhance for the Chance:** Utilizing youth to educate youth on fire prevention and disaster preparedness.
- **Ohio Responds:** Learn how you can access a FREE volunteer management system to manage your volunteers!
- **And the Winner Is:** Here at Fire Corps we like to give out awards and celebrate the success stories of our programs! We will be giving out all kinds of awards this year, check out our website for more information on those – www.ohiofirecorps.com !
- **FREE T-Shirt:** Act fast and register! You just may be a proud owner of a new Fire Corps shirt (while supplies last)!

We hope to see you at the 2013 Ohio Fire Corps conference!

Please email questions to mycdevelopment@gmail.com!



Ohio State Firefighters' Association



Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services of Ohio

69 W. Foster-Maineville Road • P.O. Box 279 • Maineville, Ohio 45039-0279 • (800) 733-0159

ATTENTION: OHIO STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

As a member of the OSFA, your Department is eligible for a 15% discount on VFIS's Accident & Sickness policy. This policy is designed to cover all members of your Department without a roster for all Fire and EMS related activities. It is endorsed by the OSFA as one of their benefit programs for members. Some of the policy highlights are:

- **Accidental Death Benefit**
- **Illness Loss of Life Benefit**
- **Spousal Support Benefit**
- **Dependent Child Benefit**
- **Weekly Total Disability Benefit**
- **Lump Sum Benefit for Permanent Injury**
- **Illness and Heart Impairment**

The VFIS policy provides important benefits to fill gaps and expand on Workers' Compensation when it falls short of providing for the needs of Emergency Service Personnel.

If you have any questions or would like a quote, please contact us at: 1-800-733-0159 or send an e-mail to Zachary Stewart, Account Executive, at: zstewart@vfisoh.com

We hope to hear from you soon.



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- Lump sum benefits for serious heart related conditions;
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- Coverage to help you if you lose your job as a result of your disability; and
- Financial help if you lose your employer paid health insurance coverage as a result of your disability

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Coverage is underwritten by National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, Pa., with its principal place of business at 70 Pine St, New York, NY. 0810.027

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Mifflin Township Names Timothy Taylor NEW FIRE CHIEF

by Lynn Bruno Smith, Mifflin Township public information officer



Playing the mandolin, fiddle, banjo or bagpipes is how Mifflin Township's new fire chief helps deal with the demands of the job. Sworn in as fire chief June 14, 2012, Timothy Taylor not only has more than the credentials necessary to do the job, but he has been with the Mifflin Township Division of Fire since 1992 serving as a battalion chief, lieutenant and firefighter/paramedic. He replaced Chief L. James DeConnick who served since 1999.

"What I value most is the family feel, mutual support and professionalism at Mifflin," Taylor said. "I'm standing on the shoulders of giants."

The Mifflin Township Division of Fire consists of 77 career firefighter/paramedics who respond to more than 7,500 emergency calls per year and are consistently one of the busiest fire departments in Franklin County.

"There is a surprise around every corner, and I think there will continue to be surprises until I have been here all four seasons," Taylor said about his

first seven months in the new role. "I want to continue to build on the progress we have made so far and continue the momentum that has been gained through the years."

One of the biggest adjustments of the new job is the work schedule. Taylor worked shifts — 24 hours on/48 hours off — since 1992 and now works 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

Taylor, a native of Clintonville, was one of a few who graduated from high school in 1978 having simultaneously completed firefighter certification training at the Northwest Career Center in Columbus, Ohio. There were no firefighter jobs available when he graduated so he joined the U.S. Air Force as a firefighter where he served for seven years finishing his tour as the assistant fire chief of operations in King Salmon, Alaska. While serving in the military, Taylor majored in fire science through the Community College of the Air Force and upon discharge returned to The Ohio State University to earn a bachelor's degree in psychology graduating sum cum laude. In 1996, he finished coursework through Regents College to become a registered nurse.

"We're very fortunate to be blessed with an individual of his caliber to lead the fire department," said Mifflin Township Trustee Joseph Spanovich. "I've watched him when he was a battalion chief at a fire scene, and he was very calm, cool and collected."

Mifflin firefighters/paramedics enthusiastically welcomed Taylor to his new role.

"I think Chief Taylor is a fireman's chief. What I mean by that is you have a guy in the front office who will do anything he can to make his men successful," said Greg Gilbert, firefighter/paramedic at Station 131. "He always has an open door, and he cares about his men personally and professionally. He was also one of the best battalion chiefs I have ever worked for."

Taylor's job experience includes working as a fire claims adjuster for State Farm, a manufacturer's representative for Clow Water Systems Co., and staff nurse with Berger Health Systems and with NetCare. He joined Mifflin Township Division of Fire in 1992 and later that year attended Grant Hospital's training to become a paramedic. He has worked part-time for Nationwide Children's Hospital's emergency department and urgent care centers since 1992 on his days off.

"It is unique for a fire chief to have a degree in psychology, but I believe that helps Chief Taylor in dealing with our firefighters who come from various backgrounds," Spanovich said. "He's broad-minded and one of the few individuals I know who takes everything into consideration when making a decision."


Taylor has a 14-year-old son known as the "skateboard kid" and 19-year-old daughter who is a student at Ohio University studying speech pathology. He lives in Dublin

and attends the annual Irish Festival because he enjoys Celtic music.

“When you are sitting there learning to play an instrument, it takes away all of the angst of the job,” Taylor said.




Pictured (from left) 2 Unit from Station 131; Michael Cordell, Greg Gilbert, Kenneth King, Chief Timothy Taylor, Robert Gault, Bill Kirsop and Tom Lee. All the guys are firefighters/paramedics except Lee who is a lieutenant.



Thank You.

All-American Fire Equipment appreciates your business as well as what each and every firefighter does for our communities on a daily basis. For this, we are extremely grateful.

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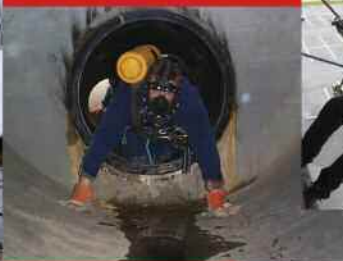


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55 Other Calls per Year

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Eric White1st Asst. Chief

Dave Rock2nd Asst. Chief

Jay Herstine1st Captain

Equipment

1-Pumper • 1-Rescue • 1-Tanker

1-1996 F-150 4X4 Brush Vehicle

1-1978 Jeep CJ7 4X4 Brush Vehicle



Pictured Below From left to right:

Capt. Jay Herstine, Jeanine Rock, Scott Snyder, Bob Chapman, Chief 3 Dave Rock, Capt. Scott Eckinger, Capt. Steve Loomis, Chief 1 Don Nicholson, Clay Loomis





Do you have a Cadet/Jr. Firefighters/Explorers program? If you do, the Ohio Youth Fire & EMS Training Academy has a great opportunity for your group! Each year the OSFA sponsors a week-long camp at Hocking College where youth from around the state and nation come together to learn, train, build friendships, and further their desire to serve our nation as firefighters. Former attendees have begun careers in the fire & EMS service as paid and volunteer personnel. The youth of today are the future of the fire service tomorrow and it is imperative that we instill in them the honor, tradition, and sacrifice that is part of our great profession. Please check out our website ohioyouthfire.org for more information about sending your young men and women to this week that they will never forget. If you are a Firefighter or EMT who has a desire to make an impact on these young people, please contact me at d_bainum10@hotmail.com.



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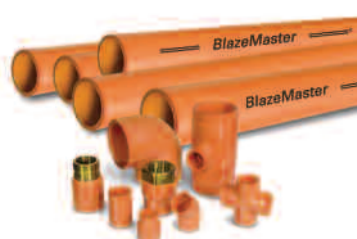
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OHIO STATE FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

REGISTRATION FORM

FOR LINE-OF-DUTY DEATH BENEFITS



The _____ Fire Department desires to enroll in the Ohio State Firefighters' Association's Line of Duty death benefit program. We agree to abide by all of the regulations set forth by the Awards Committee governing this award.

Total members of the department_____.

Chief or immediate contact person_____.

Phone number for immediate contact_____.

Department phone number_____.

The following are the regulations that govern the administration of this award:

- 1) Firefighter or EMT must be a member of a Fire Department or EMS Squad that is a member of the OSFA.
- 2) The person's death must occur during or as a result of an emergency incident. Emergency is defined as a response for fire, rescue, emergency medical activity, or the presumption that an emergency has occurred.
- 3) In the event of a heart attack, it must have occurred within twenty-four (24) hours of the emergency.
- 4) Preferably the death should be reported to the O.S.F.A. within twenty-four (24) hours of the occurrence. The O.S.F.A. will make every effort to deliver this money within twenty-four (24) hours of the notification.
- 5) The member fire department must have pre-registered with the O.S.F.A Secretary/Treasurer as to the number of members on their active roster and current beneficiary information must be kept on file with the department.
- 6) The decision of the Awards Committee will be final.

In the event that current beneficiary information is not on file, the benefit will be paid in the following order:

- 1) Surviving spouse.
- 2) Surviving parents.
- 3) Surviving next of kin (brother or sister)
- 4) Person handling the funeral arrangements.

Signature (Chief or Responsible Person)

Date

OSFA FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR AWARD QUALIFICATIONS

1. The nominee must be a current member of the Ohio State Firefighters' Association.
2. The nominee must be an active member of his/her Fire Department. (Unless posthumous).
3. The nominee must have performed a service above and beyond the call of duty.

RULES

1. The nominee's name must be presented by the Chief, an Officer, or if a County Association, by the President.
2. The application form must be completed and mailed to the Awards Chairman no later than June 1st for inclusion in that year's presentation.
3. Consideration shall be from May 1st to the following April 30th of each year.
4. Posthumous Awards shall be presented to the next of kin.
5. One award shall be given each year, if applications meet qualifications.
6. Each County Association is encouraged to conduct an awards program and then nominate their winner for the OSFA Firefighter of the Year Award.
7. The decision of the OSFA Awards Committee shall be final.

OHIO STATE FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION, INC. "Firefighter of the Year Award" Nomination Form

Firefighter's Name, Rank, and Mailing Address:

Date of Incident:

Details of Incident in Full:

(If more space is needed, attach further details to this blank. Send pictures and news clippings of the incident.)

IF THIS IS A POSTHUMOUS AWARD, SEND THE NAME OF PERSON OF WHO WILL ACCEPT

I HAVE PERSONALLY EXAMINED THE ABOVE INCIDENT AND NOMINATE THE ABOVE FIREFIGHTER FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE OHIO STATE FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION "FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR" PROGRAM.

SIGNED _____ DATE _____
Rank, Fire Department or County Association

NOTE: THIS APPLICATION MUST BE MAILED NO LATER THAN JUNE 1ST FOR CONSIDERATION
Please return this completed form to: Becky Mole
35253 Grafton Eastern Road
Grafton, Ohio 44044

"Charles J. Getz" O.S.F.A. Firefighters' Scholarship Award

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- The applicant must be a member of a Fire Department belonging to the Ohio State Firefighters' Association.
- The applicant must be recommended by the fire chief.
- The applicant must be a high school graduate.
- The applicant must be 18 years old. (minimum age)
- The applicant must show interest in the fire service.
- The applicant must write a resume of their Fire Service background and future goals.
- The applicant must submit a completed "Official Application for Scholarship"

AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIP GRANT:

- \$2,000.00 may be applied toward tuition and other course charges including books and lab fees.

- Yearly increments are limited to \$1,000.00 for two years. (Course must be completed within 3 years from the date of the award.)

- Cost of courses will be paid to the individual upon presentation of passing grades and tuition bills.

SELECTION COMMITTEE:

- Candidates shall be selected from those applicants that meet all general requirements, and including, good character, dedication to the fire service, and financial need.

COLLEGES:

- The candidate must attend an accredited college presenting an "Associate Degree in Fire Technology".

Scholarship Committee: Backy Mole, Chairman - 440-308-6192

"Charles J. Getz" Firefighter Scholarship

Application Form - Please type or print!

NAME _____ AGE _____ S.S. # _____

HOME ADDRESS _____ HOME PHONE _____

_____ SINGLE _____ MARRIED _____

NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS _____ OWN/RENT HOME _____ LIVE WITH PARENTS _____

OCCUPATION _____ ANNUAL INCOME _____

NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL _____ YEAR GRADUATED _____

NAME OF FIRE DEPT. _____ RANK _____

OTHER FUNDING AVAILABLE TO YOUR FROM DEPARTMENT, CITY, TOWNSHIP, ETC.

TYPE OF FIRE DEPT.: PAID _____ VOL _____ CITY _____ VILLAGE _____ TOWNSHIP _____ PRIVATE _____

DATE YOU ENTERED FIRE SERVICE _____ TOTAL YEARS OF FIRE SERVICE _____

LIST OTHER FIRE SERVICE AFFILIATIONS:

LIST ANY OTHER FIRE SERVICE COLLEGE DEGREES OR ACCREDITATION:

INSTITUTION AND COURSE INFORMATION

INSTITUTION NAME AND DEPT.: _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE # _____

COURSE TITLE FROM CATALOG _____ COURSE # _____

COURSE BEGINS _____ ENDS _____ FULL TUITION COST _____

TYPE OF DEGREE OR ACCREDITATION _____

A PHOTO COPY OF COURSE DESCRIPTION FROM THE COURSE CATALOG

MUST BE ATTACHED TO THIS APPLICATION!

* Recipient of scholarship may be subject to receive a 1099.

Continued on next page

“Charles J. Getz” Firefighter Scholarship

TO: SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE:

In applying for consideration, I am aware that any grant will be applied against my tuition, books, and other course costs. In the event my course does not cost the full amount of the grant, I am only eligible for the amount of the tuition and I have no claim against the Ohio State Firefighters' Association, the donor, or the college for the remainder. I agree that no scholarship money will be used for travel expenses, meals, child care or any other expenses not connected with the tuition and a maximum of only \$1,000.00 of the awarded scholarship may be used for each school year. I agree that no scholarship monies may be used for any schooling prior to the awarding of this scholarship or for any EMS/Paramedic training. I am aware that I have up to three years to make use of the awarded scholarship. Any unused money after the three year period will revert back to the Firefighters Scholarship Fund. I declare that all statements herein are complete and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that if any scholarship monies not used for the purpose of which it was intended, it will be returned to the Ohio State Firefighters' Association. Any deviation or non submission from the required application information may be subject to applications removal from consideration for scholarship.

Applicants Signature _____ Dated _____

IT IS MANDATORY THAT THE FIRE CHIEF SIGN THIS APPLICATION BELOW!

ENDORSEMENT OF THE FIRE CHIEF OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, REGARDING SAID COURSE
RECOMMENDED FOR COURSE _____ NOT RECOMMENDED _____
DETAILED REASONS _____

SIGNATURE OF FIRE CHIEF _____ DATED _____

SPECIAL NOTES, CONDITIONS, AND INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING SCHOLARSHIP NOTE:

If application is approved, the following documents must be submitted to the scholarship committee for reimbursement.

1. Evidence of Satisfactory completion of course.
2. Copy of paid tuition bill (from College)
3. A copy of bill for books and/or other course charges
4. A summary report regarding course substance, quality of instruction and copy of grades.

INSTRUCTIONS: Fill out this form, complete with required signatures. Include a resume of your fire service background, career and education. Include the reasons for wanting the course mentioned and this scholarship. Attach all sheets to this form and forward to the Selection Committee of Scholarships.

Chairman Becky Mole, 35253 Grafton Eastern Road, Grafton, Ohio 44044, Phone 440-308-6192

PLEASE NOTE: Scholarships will only be awarded for college courses providing Academic College Credits. Certificate or “short” courses are not eligible for consideration.

ENTRIES POSTMARKED AFTER MAY 30TH, WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS YEARS SELECTION.
ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARSHIPS:

Recommended _____ Amount Awarded _____ Not Recommended _____

REASONS: _____

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE _____ DATED _____

Paramedic Scholarship

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- The applicant must be a member of a Fire Department belonging to the Ohio State Firefighters' Association.
- The applicant must be recommended by the fire chief.
- The applicant must be a high school graduate.
- The applicant must be 18 years of age.
- The applicant must show interest in the EMS field.
- The applicant must write a resume of their Fire and/or EMS background and future goals.
- The applicant must submit a completed "Official Application for Scholarship" and supporting documents.

AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIP GRANT:

- \$2,000.00 may be applied toward tuition and other course charges including books and lab fees.
- Course must be completed within 3 years from the date of the award.
- Cost of courses will be paid to the individual upon successful completion of the course.

SELECTION COMMITTEE:

- Candidates shall be selected from those applicants that meet all general requirements, and including, good character, dedication to the Fire or EMS Service, and financial need.

Scholarship Committee
Becky Mole, Chairman

Paramedic Scholarship

Application Form - Please type or print!

NAME _____ AGE _____ S.S. # _____

HOME ADDRESS _____ HOME PHONE _____

_____ SINGLE _____ MARRIED _____

NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS _____ OWN/RENT HOME _____ LIVE WITH PARENTS _____

OCCUPATION _____ ANNUAL INCOME _____

NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL _____ YEAR GRADUATED _____

NAME OF FIRE DEPT. _____ RANK _____

DESCRIBE OTHER FUNDING SOURCES THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO YOU (DEPARTMENT, CITY, TOWNSHIP ETC.)

TYPE OF FIRE DEPT.: PAID _____ VOL _____ CITY _____ VILLAGE _____ TOWNSHIP _____ PRIVATE _____

DATE YOU ENTERED FIRE SERVICE _____ TOTAL YEARS OF FIRE SERVICE _____

LIST OTHER FIRE SERVICE AFFILIATIONS:

LIST ANY OTHER FIRE SERVICE COLLEGE DEGREES OR ACCREDITATION:

INSTITUTION AND COURSE INFORMATION

INSTITUTION NAME

ADDRESS _____ PHONE # _____

COURSE TITLE _____ COURSE # _____

COURSE BEGINS _____ ENDS _____ FULL TUITION COST _____

* Recipient of scholarship may be subject to receive a 1099.

Continued on next page

Paramedic Scholarship

TO: SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE:

In applying for consideration, I am aware that any grant will be applied against my tuition, books, and other course costs. In the event my course does not cost the full amount of the grant, I am only eligible for the amount of the tuition and I have no claim against the Ohio State Firefighters' Association for the remainder. I agree that no scholarship money will be used for travel expenses, meals, child care or any other expenses not connected with the paramedic tuition. I agree that no scholarship monies may be used for any schooling prior to the awarding of this scholarship. I am aware that I have up to two years to make use of the awarded scholarship. Any unused money after the three year period will revert back to the Paramedic Scholarship Fund. I declare that all statements herein are complete and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that if any scholarship monies not used for the purpose of which it was intended, it will be returned to the Ohio State Firefighters' Association. Any deviation or non submission from the required application information may be subject to applications removal for consideration for scholarship.

Applicant's Signature _____ Dated _____

IT IS MANDATORY THAT THE FIRE CHIEF SIGN THIS APPLICATION BELOW!

ENDORSEMENT OF THE FIRE CHIEF OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, REGARDING SAID COURSE
RECOMMENDED FOR COURSE _____ NOT RECOMMENDED _____

DETAILED REASONS:

SIGNATURE OF FIRE CHIEF _____ DATED _____

SPECIAL NOTES, CONDITION, AND INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING SCHOLARSHIP

NOTE: If application is approved, the following documents must be submitted to the scholarship committee for reimbursement.

1. Evidence of Satisfactory completion of course.
2. Copy of paid tuition bill.
3. A copy of bill for books and/or other course charges
4. A summary report regarding course substance, quality of instruction and copy of grades.

INSTRUCTIONS: Fill out this form, complete with required signatures. Write a resume of your fire and EMS service background, career and your education. Include the reasons for wanting the course mentioned and this scholarship. Attach all sheets to this form and forward to the Selection Committee of Scholarships.

Chairman Becky Mole, 35253 Grafton Eastern Road, Grafton, Ohio 44044, Phone 440-308-6192

ENTRIES POSTMARKED AFTER MAY 30TH, WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS YEARS SELECTION.
ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARSHIPS:

Recommended _____ Amount Awarded _____ Not Recommended _____

REASONS:

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE _____ DATED _____

OHIO STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Outstanding Fire Service Award Nomination Form

Qualifications Required: Minimum of 25 years of Service
Fire Department must be a current OSFA Member

Date: _____

I wish to nominate: _____

of the _____ Fire Department

Dept. address: _____

Nominee is Living: _____ Active: _____ Retired: _____ Deceased: _____

Fire Service Occupation or Rank: _____ Years of Service: _____

Please list and explain the major contributions the nominee has made to the fire department.

Use second sheet if needed.

Member of Organization making nomination: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Signed: _____

Date Award to be presented: _____

Please return completed form to: Becky Mole
35253 Grafton Eastern Road • Grafton, Ohio 44044
If any questions please call: 440-308-6192

Ohio State Firefighters' Association

Membership can be your voice helping to change Ohio's fire service

History

The Ohio State Firefighter's Association (OSFA) was organized in 1938 in Mt. Vernon, Ohio by firefighters who had the interest and the welfare of all firefighters in the State of Ohio in mind. The OSFA has benefited more firefighters throughout the State of Ohio over the years than any other group. The association membership voted, in August of 1985, to change the name of the association to the Ohio State Firefighters' Association due to the ever increasing number of women joining the fire service, EMS and our Association.

Mission Statement

The Ohio State Firefighters' Association was organized for:

- The general improvement of the fire service throughout the State of Ohio; in order to form a statewide organization, to establish harmony and to ensure prosperity and success.
- To provide group benefits, obtain and compile statistics to provide information to the fire service.
- To assist in affording protection to disabled firefighters, and those dependent upon them, through legislative enactment.
- To create and maintain brotherly and fraternal fellowship among firefighters of the State of Ohio, through educational seminars and programs.
- Membership
- Legal Defense Trust Fund
- Insurance Plan
- Group Life Insurance
- Charles J. Getz Scholarship
- Paramedic School Scholarships
- Web Page
- Firefighter of the Year Award
- Statewide Radio Licensing
- Ohio Firefighter Publication
- Youth Academy
- Ohio Fire Alliance
- Annual Conference
- Line of Duty Death

Representation on Boards and Committees

Recognized as one of the leaders of Ohio's Fire Service, the OSFA represents its membership by serving on several Boards and Committees, which has an impact on decisions which affect Ohio's fire service, they are:

- Three members on the Ohio EMS Board
- Three members on the Fire Sub-committee to the EMS Board
- Member of the Educational Task Force
- Member Trauma Advisory Group
- Co-founder and member of the Ohio Fire Alliance
- Member of the Ohio Rural Fire Council
- Member Ohio Rescue Task Force
- Member Emergency Response Commission
- Member Public-Safety Communications Task Force
- Member EMS Privatization Task Force
- Ohio's delegate to the National Volunteer Fire Council
- The Board of Visitors at the National Fire Academy
- The Joint Council of Fire Service Associations
- NFPA Committees
- The Federation of World Volunteer Firefighters Association
- Provides representation at the Ohio Fire Commission meetings
- Sends a delegation each year to the National Fire & Emergency Services Caucus in Washington, D.C.
- Legislation-over 275 laws have been enacted, changed, or revised with assistance of the OSFA.

Membership Dues

The dues in the Ohio State Firefighters' Association are payable to the Secretary/Treasurer. Beginning in 2006, dues are \$75.00 per year for each organized fire department or fire brigade. A five-year department membership is available for \$325. Individual memberships are available for \$25.00. The yearly rate for Dealer/Corporate/Equipment Sales Groups is \$75.00.

Ohio State Firefighters' Association Membership form

Membership Type ____ Department ____ Individual ____ Dealer/Corporate/Equipment Sales

Name

Chief's Name Dept Fax Dept Phone

Address

Mailing Address (If different than street address)

City County Zip

Email Address Number of Members

For more information contact the OSFA at our web site or fill out the information above and mail it to the OSFA at:

Ohio State Firefighters' Association

P.O. Box 400 • Mogadore, OH 44260 • (330) 388-4307

CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

Let us know – so we can keep you informed!

Name: _____

Department: _____

Address: _____

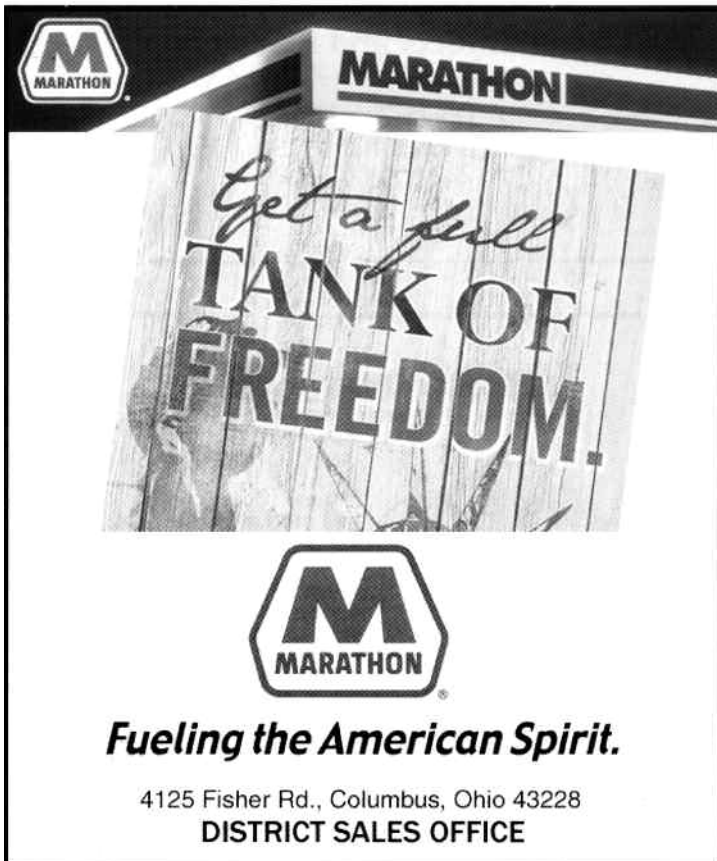
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Fill out the information above and mail it to the OSFA at:

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DOUBLE FATAL RESPONDING FIRE APPARATUS CRASH WILL GO TO TRIAL

Friday, December 7, 2012 THIS STORY IS FOR EVERY Fire/EMS officer and driver*. The Ohio Supreme Court ruled yesterday that a trial court should reconsider whether the city of Massillon was liable in the 2008 fire apparatus crash that killed Ronald E. Anderson, 72, and his 4-year-old step-grandson, Javarre J. Tate.

On May 6, 2008, the MFD Firefighters were responding to a report of a vehicle fire. The first apparatus responded and proceeded through the intersection with no issue. The 2nd apparatus, E-211, also traveling with its lights and sirens on, struck Anderson's vehicle as he passed through the intersection killing him and his grandson. Attorneys for Cynthia Anderson, Ronald Anderson's widow, have argued that Firefighter Susan Toles (who was related to Anderson) was driving the apparatus at excessive and unsafe speeds given the neighborhood and type of emergency to which they were responding. Engine 211 was later found to be operating at speeds between 49 mph and 52 mph at the point of impact.

The city has argued that the accident was unavoidable because Anderson (who was hard of hearing) failed to yield to the oncoming fire truck at the intersection, which has a four-way stop and a flashing red light-but had stopped for the first apparatus, and then proceeded through the intersection, being struck by the 2nd.

Common Pleas Judge Charles Brown initially ruled the city was immune from liability because there was no evidence that Toles or her supervisor, Capt. Rick Annen, acted with "a malicious purpose, in bad faith or in a wanton or reckless manner."

The case relates to two state statutes. One law affords political subdivisions a defense from liability if a fire truck is responding to an emergency, as long as the operation of the vehicle does not constitute willful or wanton misconduct. The other statute provides immunity to public employees as long as their actions are not considered wanton or reckless.

HOWEVER, the Fifth District reversed Brown's decision, stating that "reasonable minds" could find the firefighters' actions reckless because of the rate of speed at which the truck was traveling and the obstructions that interfered with a clear view of the intersection. The state Supreme Court wrote in its

18-page opinion that the standards of the terms willful, wanton and reckless are "different and distinct degrees of care and are not interchangeable" and remanded the case back to the trial court. ■

OHIO FIREFIGHTER THREATENED BY CITIZEN WITH A GUN

Tuesday, January 22, 2013 Dayton firefighters had more than a fire to investigate Tuesday afternoon.

They say they had an unruly man to contend with as they arrived.

Firefighters responded to 622 Salem Avenue shortly after 3:00 pm on the report of smoke coming from a house there.

They arrived to find the homeowner threatening them with a gun.

Firefighters decided to call police and wait for officers to arrive.

Police did take the man into custody, as firefighters entered the house.

Firefighters say it was smoke from a fireplace that alerted a passerby to a possible fire. There was no damage to the home.

Firefighters will not pursue charges against the homeowner as they say they never saw an actual gun produced. ■

OHIO CRASH VICTIM SUES EX-FIREFIGHTER'S WIFE

Monday, January 21, 2013 Olivia Duty, 22, was driving her car north on Ohio 19 in Ottawa County on July 16, 2010, when a pickup slammed into her car at Oak Harbor Southeast Road.

Her boyfriend, Ian Huffman, 24, of Elmore, was killed on impact.

The driver of the pickup, Timothy Johnson, 43, was charged criminally in Huffman's death, and for injuring Duty. He had been answering an emergency call as a volunteer firefighter for Portage Township Fire District when the crash happened.

More than two years later, after a mistrial and

months of litigation in a civil lawsuit, Johnson pleaded guilty to vehicular homicide and attempted vehicular homicide. He was sentenced to nine months in jail.

His pickup reached speeds of up to 98 mph only seconds before the crash, experts said at the trial.

In October, Duty and Huffman's parents, Maureen and John Huffman, agreed to a \$1.57 million settlement in their lawsuit against Johnson. ■

FIRE CHIEF "MOBBED" AFTER THE LOSS OF HIS DAUGHTER

Friday, January 4, 2013 The experts say that the headline grabs the reader - so hopefully this one worked. It's a tough headline: "Fire Chief Mobbed After The Loss of His Daughter"--but it's a fact. One of our mutual aid Chiefs is a man named Andy Mitten. He is the Chief of Harlan Township Fire & EMS in Warren County, Ohio--a suburb of Cincinnati. And while we don't run a lot of calls together, there are some areas where both our departments are due on runs. So we catch up from time to time. Andy grew up in Pennsylvania (State College and Towanda) and followed the footsteps of his Dad and Uncle, also Firefighters. Like so many of you, he LOVES being a Dad, Husband and Firefighter ...and being a Firefighter pretty much defines who Andy is. But Andy was "Mobbed" this week. Read on.

I have had the real pleasure to have Andy as a friend since the early 90's and he is definitely one of a kind. A very low key, unassuming man who gets so much done with so little fanfare--he defines living leadership. He is extremely active and has helped grow and lead a phenomenal, highly respected busy rural volunteer fire and rescue company--as he was a charter member back in 1976. He was one of the first ever Ohio EMT's and helped his department grow from one station with a used pumper, to a fleet of 15 fire and EMS vehicles in 2 stations professionally staffed by 50 volunteers. We've been on some serious runs together, but none like the one he turned out for in 1991. As Firefighter and EMT's, turning out and responding to what ends up being a call for a member of your family, is about as tough as it gets. The worst day. This is about Fire Chief Andy Mitten's worst day. His daughter Dee Dee was killed in a car crash in 1991 that he and his daughter Melissa (then an EMT with the HTFD) both responded to--and arrived first due. When they did, they discovered his daughter Dee Dee was the victim. Her life could not be saved. But through just a few moments he and his wife had to make a decision later at the hospital, other lives were saved as Dee Dee now helped

others as an organ and tissue donor. Dee Dee's sister, Melissa, was so motivated and impacted, that she became a nurse and later started working for LifeCenter Organ Donor Network, <http://lifepassion.org> following her sister's tragic death. She is now the Director of Organ Operations, and her sister's donation is what inspired her to start a career in organ donation.

As time has gone on, Andy has continued his role as the Fire Chief in Harlan Township, President of the Warren County Chiefs, a Risk Manager for the Kroger Corporation as well as the Safety Director at Kings Island Amusement Park---along with many other related roles as well as a Dad, husband and friend, always with his daughter Dee Dee in his heart and mind. ■

SCREAMING AND POTENTIALLY CRAZY WOMAN JUMPS ON FIRE APPARATUS AND REFUSES TO COME DOWN. NOT EXACTLY "MRS SMITH"

Thursday, January 3, 2013 A 21-year-old Ohio woman slapped with charges after climbing a fire truck and refusing to come down while drunk on New Year's Eve. The incident happened shortly after 0100 at the Broadway firehouse in Lorain.

According to LFD Firefighters, Miranda Lewis came to the station intoxicated and screaming for help. When she was let inside the station, she said she was going to be raped and started running around. She eventually climbed up one of the fire trucks and refused to come down. Police were called, and tried to coax Lewis down, but she refused and clung to a large water nozzle. It took several officers to pry Lewis off of the nozzle and bring her down to safety. Lewis is charged with disorderly conduct by intoxication and disorderly conduct persisting. If there had been a fire emergency during Lewis' incident, response may have been delayed. ■

***All articles are courtesy of
www.firefighterclosecalls.com***

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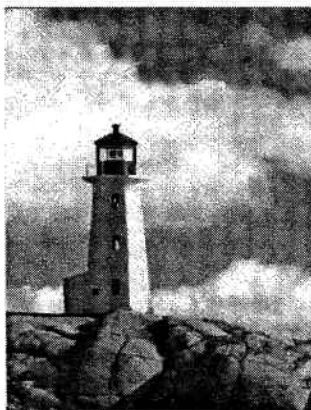
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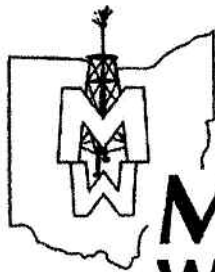
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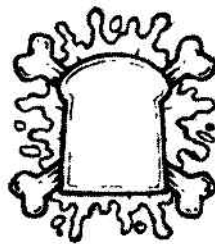
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(440) 543-9868

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Convenient Food Mart
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Elyria OH 44035
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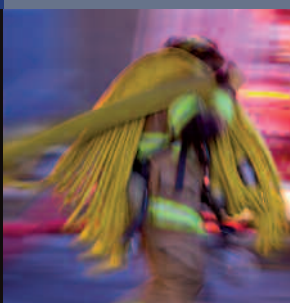
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